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## Safety and Sobering Cells

### 503.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the requirement for placing inmates into safety cells or sobering cells.

#### 503.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Safety cell** - An enhanced protective housing cell designed to hold only those inmates who display behavior which results in the destruction of property or reveals an intent to cause physical harm to self or others.

**Sobering cell** - A holding cell designed to minimize the risk of injury by falling or dangerous behavior. It is used as an initial sobering place for arrestees or inmates who are a threat to their own safety or the safety of others as a result of being intoxicated from any substance, and who require a protected environment to prevent injury or victimization by other inmates.

### 503.2 POLICY

This facility will employ the use of safety and sobering cells to protect inmates from injury or to prevent the destruction of property by an inmate in accordance with applicable law.

In no case shall the safety cell be used for punishment or as a substitute for treatment.

### 503.3 SAFETY CELL PROCEDURES

An inmate shall be placed in a safety cell only with the approval of the facility manager or designee, or responsible health care staff; continued retention shall be reviewed a minimum of every four hours.

If an inmate is placed in a safety cell, medical staff will be notified within an hour of placement, or at the earliest opportunity. In any case when a Safety Cell placement is initiated, a Jail Incident Report shall be written documenting the incident or statements justifying the placement.

A medical assessment shall be completed as soon as possible, but not more than 12 hours from the time of placement in the safety cell. The inmate shall be medically cleared for continued retention, referral to advanced treatment, or removal from the safety cell a minimum of every 24 hours thereafter.

The facility manager, designee or responsible health care staff shall obtain a mental health opinion/consultation with responsible health care staff on placement and retention, which shall be secured as soon as possible, but not more than 12 hours from placement. Retention shall be reviewed every 12 hours.

Direct visual observation shall be conducted at least twice every thirty minutes, with no more than a 15-minute lapse between safety checks. Such observation shall be documented with the PIPE along with the door check sheet. All cell moves and unusual events shall be recorded on the door check sheet.

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Proper nutrition and hydration shall not be withheld and will be provided at each meal. Supplemental fluids shall be offered at least every two (2) hours and is provided upon request.

Inmates placed in the safety cell shall be allowed to retain sufficient clothing, or be provided with a suitably designed "safety garment," to provide for their personal privacy unless specific identifiable risks to the inmate's safety or to the security of the facility are documented. There shall be only one inmate per safety cell. When a Safety Cell placement is determined to require the diagnosis of a mental health facility due to a mental disorder, Medical will be alerted to assist with the scheduling and treatment of a mental health evaluation at/by Shasta Mental Health pursuant to 4011.6 PC or 4011.8 PC. When it is determined an individual no longer fits the criteria requiring placement in a Safety Cell, communication should take place with medical staff and the Watch Commander to initiate a step down process or return to general population.

Use of the Medical Safety Cell in the medical wing is generally designated for those Safety Cell placements in need of some medical triage. In those cases of need due to capacity levels, the Medical Safety Cell can be used as a regular Safety Cell.

Inmates that have a mobility-disability e.g., prosthetic device, shall receive reasonable accommodation by both custody and medical staff prior to being placed in the safety cell.

### **503.4 SOBERING CELL PROCEDURES**

The sobering cell described in Title 24, Part 2, Section 1231.2.4, shall be used for temporary holding of inmates who are a threat to their own safety or the safety of others due to their state of intoxication. An inmate shall be removed from the sobering cell as soon as they are able to continue the admission process or are no longer a risk to themselves or others. In no case shall an inmate person remain in a sobering cell over six hours without an evaluation by medical or custody staff to determine whether the person has an urgent medical problem, pursuant to Title 15 section 1213. At 12 hours from the time of placement, all inmates must receive an evaluation by responsible health care staff. Intermittent direct visual observation of inmates held in the sobering cell shall be conducted no less than every half hour. Such observation shall be documented.

Intoxicated arrestees will be placed in a sobering cell with a minimum of two (2) direct visual observation cell checks within each thirty (30) minutes, with no more than 15 minutes between each check. All checks are to be recorded with the PIPE by pressing the PIPE to the button at the door. All cell moves and unusual events shall be recorded on the door check sheet. Sobering Cell observations should be done under the supervision of both medical and custody staff.